Message Text

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22-12

ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00

OFA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 EPA-04 INR-07 L-03

NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-04 USIA-15 OES-05 SS-15

SP-02 INT-05 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 ABF-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 H-02 /144 R

DRAFTED BY IO/SCT:JPTREVITHICK APPROVED BY IO - DR. MOREY OES/ENP/EN - DR. KING (SUBS) IO/SEC - MR. HENNES IO/EX - MR. CUMMINS IO/CMD - MR. FORMAN AID/PPC/IA - MR. EVANS

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R 232135Z DEC 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ABUD, UNEP

SUBJECT: UNEP: STATUS OF US CONTRIBUTIONS TO ENVIRONMENT FUND

1. UNEP ENVIRONMENT FUND DIRECTOR, BRUCE STEDMAN, VISITED DEPT DECEMBER 17 FOR INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH IO DEPSEC MOREY, OES DEPSEC HERTER AND OTHERS ON THE STATUS OF US CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ENVIRONMENT FUND. DEPTOFFS INFORMED STEDMAN THAT, FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS, THE US WOULD NOT UNCLASSIFIED

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COMPLETE FULL PAYMENT OF ITS INITIAL PLEDGE TO THE ENVIRON-

MENT FUND BY THE END OF THE FIRST FIVE-YEAR PERIOD OF UNEP'S OPERATION; I.E., 1977. STEDMAN WAS TOLD THAT THE RATE OF US CONTRIBUTIONS IS DEPENDENT UPON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS (INCLUDING THE COMPLETION OF US APPROPRIATIONS PROCEDURES) AND UPON UNEP'S OWN RATE OF EXPENDITURE. ON THE LATTER POINT, DEPTOFFS NOTED THAT UNEP, FOR UNDERSTANDABLE REASONS, HAD NOT IN ITS FIRST YEARS, ACHIEVED ANYWHERE NEAR THE PROGRAM LEVEL ORIGINALLY PROJECTED, EITHER IN TERMS OF COMMITMENTS FOR APPROVED PROJECTS OR IN ACTUAL EXPENDITURES.

2. STEDMAN WAS INFORMED THAT, SUBJECT TO THE CAVEATS IDENTIFIED ABOVE, WE HOPE IN 1976 TO AUGMENT THE SUM ALREADY PAID TO THE 1975 PROGRAM AND INITIATE A CONTRIBU-

TION TO THE 1976 PROGRAM. FYI. A POSSIBLE PATTERN OF CONTRIBUTIONS WAS DISCUSSED TENTATIVELY WITH STEDMAN. WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CONFIRM THE US INTENTIONS IN TERMS OF ACTUAL AMOUNTS, HOWEVER, UNTIL SOMETIME EARLY IN 1976. END FYI

- 3. DEPTOFFS TOLD STEDMAN THAT THE FOREGOING GENERAL POSITION WOULD BE CONFIRMED BY EMBASSY NAIROBI. ACCORDINGLY, REQUEST EMBASSY TRANSMIT THE FOLLOWING LETTER TO UNEP:
- 4. QUOTE. I AM WRITING IN REFERENCE TO THE UNITED STATES PLEDGE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT FUND UP TO DOLS 40 MILLION TOWARD A DOLS 100 MILLION FUND FOR THE FIRST FIVE YEARS, CONTINGENT UPON A MINIMUM OF DOLS 60 MILLION IN CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OTHERS.

TO DATE, THE UNITED STATES HAS CONTRIBUTED A TOTAL OF DOLS 12.5 MILLION. THE LATEST PAYMENT WAS MADE IN AUGUST 1975, DOLS 1.8 MILLION TOWARDS UNEP'S 1974 PROGRAM, AND DOLS 3.2 MILLION TOWARD UNEP'S 1975 PROGRAM.

THE RATE OF US CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FUND IN FULFILL-MENT OF ITS PLEDGE IS DEPENDENT ON A NUMBER OF FACTORS, THE MOST IMPORTANT OF WHICH IS THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS, INCLUDING THE COMPLETION OF US CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIA-UNCLASSIFIED

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TIONS PROCEDURE. UNEP'S RATE OF EXPENDITURE IS, OF COURSE, INFLUENTIAL IN DETERMINING THE AMOUNT REQUESTED BY THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND APPROPRIATED BY THE CONGRESS. IN THIS LATTER RESPECT, THE UNITED STATES RECOGNIZES THAT THE UNEP'S EXPENDITURES, FOR UNDERSTANDABLE REASONS, HAVE

NOT ACHIEVED THE RATE OF ACCELERATION ORIGINALLY PROJECTED. WE HAVE NOTED FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S

REMARKS TO THE 30TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT FUND EXPENDITURES ARE NOW GROWING RAPIDLY. WE WILL LOOK FORWARD TO A MORE DETAILED EXPOSITION OF THE CURRENT SITUATION AT THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL.

IN THE MEANTIME, AND TO ASSIST THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IN PROJECTING UNEP PROGRAM ACTIVITIES, THE UNITED STATES, SUBJECT TO THE CONDITIONS IDENTIFIED ABOVE, IS HOPING IN THE COMING YEAR TO CONTRIBUTE A FURTHER SUM TO THE 1975 PROGRAM AND AN INITIAL AMOUNT TOWARD THE 1976 PROGRAM. AS EXPLAINED TO MR. STEDMAN DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO WASHINGTON, THE PRECISE AMOUNTS OF FUTURE US PAYMENTS, AS WELL AS THEIR TIMING, WILL BE COMMUNICATED TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT A LATER DATE.

FINALLY, THE UNITED STATES, IN RESPONSE TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REQUEST TO THE THIRD SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL, WILL GIVE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO THE LEVEL OF A FURTHER PLEDGE TO THE UNEP FUND. END QUOTE.

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TAGS: ABUD, UNEP To: NAIROBI

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